

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 7, first paragraph lines 3-12 (previously amended, should further be amended as follows:

The first section 318 of the housing rests on the sulcus 218 of the ear, and the positive retention of the communication device to the ear results from a space between the first section and the self-retaining element 316. An anatomical ear thickness measurement study was performed on fifty-eight participants, including men and women ranging from 88 to 296 pounds. The average thickness measured between the sulcus 218 and the cimba conchae 220 under the inferior crus 216 was 0.118 inches, with a deviation of +0.027 and -0.020 inches. This range is easily accommodated because of the flexible properties of the self-retaining element 316. The preferred dimension across the space between the first section 318 of the housing and the self-retaining element 316 is 0.118 inches +/- .054. The space between the first section 318 of the housing and the self-retaining element 316 becomes gradually smaller 502, 504, 506 as the self-retaining element 316 extends further away from the sound delivery tube 310. Referring back to FIG. 4, the “S” shape self-retaining element 316 is designed specifically to conform to the range of thickness. The shape of the self-retaining element 316 consists of a broad spring contacting area designed to minimize the force in any one area, increasing user comfort.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

1. A proposed drawing correction has been submitted adding designator 318 to FIG. 3.
2. A proposed drawing correction has been submitted adding designators 310 (with cross-hatching), 502, 504, and 506 to FIG. 5.
3. An extra designator 218 was removed from FIG. 5.